

# IN - FUR - NATION

Your Guide to the World of Furry Fandom

Volume 13, Number 2

*Our Motto: All The News We Get, We Print!*

Spring, 2002

"For a minute I honestly thought you were gonna eat me." [Sid (John Leguizamo), sloth, from *Ice Age*]

Coming up fast on ConFurence 2002, folks! The great granddaddy of furry conventions returns to Burbank, California, with as much fun than furry fans have ever had in one place. And we're here to tell you all about it – But first, here's some more of what we're known best for: Furry news! [Rod O'Riley, your Ed-Otter]



Chuck Jones, 1912 – 2002  
Image c. 2001 by chuckjones.org

**Goodbye, Mister Jones...** by now we're certain you've heard that cartoon animation lost another big name recently: **Chuck Jones**, the last remaining member of Warner Brothers' classic "Termite Terrace" crew, passed away this last February. He was 89 years old. Read more about it in our Obituary section below, and then read on about some special tribute events that'll be taking place at ConFurence 2002.

They came, they watched, they gave out gold statues... It was a night for computer animation at the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Academy Awards. *Shrek* from Dreamworks and PDI took home the coveted award for Best Animated Feature, the first time this award was presented by the academy. But Disney and Pixar's *Monsters Inc.* also took home one Oscar, winning best song for *If I Didn't Have You*. It was the first win for composer **Randy Newman** after 15 previous nominations for song and/or score. ("I don't want your pity!" he snarled to the all around applause, grinning.) Pixar had an additional honor for the evening as *For the Birds*, the CGI short that precedes *Monsters Inc.*, took the Oscar for Best Animated Short Film.

Fox Animation's new CGI feature *Ice Age* seemed to strike the right notes, as it has already broken several records. It was the number one film at the box office for its first weekend and, by topping \$43 million, broke the first weekend record for films released in March. And, just recently, *Ice Age* became the first film released in 2002 to top \$100 million. So far for 2002, it's the film to beat.

The preview trailer for Disney's new film *The Country Bears* is available for viewing at the official web site, [www.thecountrybears.com](http://www.thecountrybears.com). The film itself hits theaters on July 26<sup>th</sup>.

Okay, as of this date, the run-down of furry movies coming this summer goes like this: *Spirit – Stallion of the Cimarron* (animated, from Dreamworks) comes out May 24, *Scooby Doo* (live action with a CGI dog (!); from Warner Brothers) on June 14, *Lilo and Stitch* (animated, from Disney) on June 21, and *Stuart Little II* (live action and CGI; from Sony Pictures) on July 19.

**Seth Green's** mid-season replacement TV show *Greg the Bunny* (late of the Independent Film Channel) is already generating buzz – Not just for its nearly *Meet the Feebles* sense of humor,

but for its popularity: Though not very liked by critics, the show has been getting major ratings on Fox. If you haven't heard, *GTB* is a live-action show about a world where humans and puppets live and work together. Look for it on Wednesdays on Fox, and look up the official Fox *GTB* web site at <http://www.fox.com/greg/set/index.htm>, or look for the first unofficial fan site at <http://mmt.millennium.berkeley.edu/gtb/home>.

The Hallmark Productions TV movie of **James Gurney's** *Dinotopia* comes to your screen on Sunday, May 12. Among the human stars in this production are **David Thewlis** (*Dragonheart*, *The Island of Dr. Moreau*) and **Alice Krige** (*Star Trek: First Contact*). Check out the official web site at [www.visitdinotopia.com](http://www.visitdinotopia.com).

From Pioneer Entertainment comes *The Sherlock Hound Case File Volume 1* on DVD. Animator **Hiyao Miyazaki** (*Totoro*, *Princess Mononoke*) brings to life the adventures of the great detective, Dr. Watson, and their nemesis Professor Moriarty – as dogs. Each volume is over two hours of adventure.

Classic toons Tom and Jerry have returned in *Tom and Jerry: The Magic Ring*, a new direct-to-video DVD feature from Warner Home Video. Tom must track down Jerry through the city when a ring belonging to Tom's master, a powerful wizard, gets stuck on the mouse's head.

The first two episodes of **Gennady Tartakovsky's** highly-praised new cartoon series, *Samurai Jack*, are now available on DVD and video tape from Cartoon Network. An interesting number of furry back-up characters march their way through this series...

Stumbled across: From Wildstorm Comics, look for *The Kindred*. In it, human superheroes Grifter and Backlash find themselves embroiled in a fierce war between anthro mammals and anthro reptiles.

From Satyr Play Productions comes *Satyr*, a new black & white comic by **Mike Indovina**. Watch the wisest of the satyrs, Silenus, and his rowdy band of satyrs, centaurs, and nymphs as they stage a production (or try to) of *Oedipus Rex*.

From Vigil Press, check out *Fish N' Chips* from **Steve Hamaker**. Okay, in short form: In this black & white comic we follow the adventures of two cats, Clave and Van, action movie star and cop respectively. The two cats and Jaxer, Van's partner (who's a fish) are out to save their home town from the ravages of a plague of vampires. You heard it here folks.

New from **Devon Massey** and **Kevin Alsop** is *Cavewoman: Raptor*. In this new black & white 2-issue miniseries, told without words, cavewoman Meriem battles for survival against a 12-foot tall intelligent super-raptor dino. It comes to you from Basement Comics.

The science fiction comic mini-series *Nautilus* from Shanda Fantasy Arts has been re-released as a complete six-pack. The series was created by **Mike Curtis**, **Louis Frank**, **Ed Garcia**, **Charles Gray**, and **Dan Phillips**. Meanwhile, SFA has also released (through the Rabco imprint) another issue of the gay fury slice-of-life comic *Circles* by **Andrew French**, **Scott Fabienek**, and **Steve Domanski**. Also, in the more adult department, SFA has released its first adult fury anthology comic called *Wild Orchids*. Issue #1 features works by **Dennis Clark**, **Mike Curtis**, **Jon Crusoe**, **Sarah Wheeler**, **Terrie Smith**, and **Brock Hoagland**. And while they're at it, the *Katmandu* #1-#3 compilation *Velites* and *Hoprites* (which also includes an extra adult story) has been re-released at a reduced price.

From Radio Comix, *Saiko and Lavender* creators **Michael Vega** and **Diana X. Sprinkle** each have a new black & white comic title to their names. Mr. Vega brings us *Monsters of Rock*, in which it turns out that the most popular rock bands of the day are full of monsters – literally! Desperate record company execs try to create a band of fake monsters, until the real monsters find out and infiltrate. Meanwhile, over in *True Hue* by Ms. Sprinkle, good friends Blue, Pink, and Green must band together to find out who has switched the local temple of magic for a fake. Radio's adult imprint, Sin Factory, presents the first issue of *Anubis: Dark Desire*. Artists like **Heather Bruton**, **Diana Harlan-Stein**, **Dark Natasha**, and **Sara Palmer** illustrate stories in which ladies fury and human offer themselves to the sexual whims of the dark jackal god, judge of the underworld.

For the 13<sup>th</sup> issue of the adult furry comic anthology *Wild Kingdom*, MU Press has run with the "13" theme and put together a collection of scary and sexy horror stories by the likes of **Mark Moore, Chris Lightfoot, Diana Vick, and Chuck Melville**.

Neko Press brings us the newest series from *Animal Mystic* creator **Dark One: Brutal Planet**, which follows the adventures of Talgat Thiksin as he attempts to prevent the powers of evil from taking over his planet. Meanwhile, Neko also has the latest full-color *Animal Mystic* character poster for sale, called *Welcome Back to Praktill*.

*Xin* is a new full-color comic from Anarchy Studios that's based on the classic legends of the Monkey King from China. Available now is a preview edition of the upcoming comic, which features concept art by creator **Kevin Lau** and an interview with writer **Jay Faerber**.

On the shelves now: *The King of the Cats* trade paperback, which collects issues 15 – 18 of **Carla Speed McNeil's** award-winning comic *Finder*. The Ascians are happy to show off their tribal life to the tourists at a dimensional theme park, but the lion-like Nyima worry about losing their culture.

New from Mprints Publishing, *Error* has returned with a new 72-page graphic novel, *Destiny of Rai*. Heroes Hask, Flash, and Whitepaw must return a mysterious hatching to the bird-like araku tribe, far up the mountains. This package includes many extra goodies, including a preview of the new *Error: First Age* sourcebook for the d20 gaming system.

**Richard Moore's** comic *Far West* returns in a new trade paperback from NBM Books. This book collects the original four-issue black & white adventures of the elf bounty hunter Meg and her talking bear companion, along with a brand new story and additional pin-up art. Also out now from NBM is the *Boneyard* trade paperback Volume 1, which collects the first four issues of Mr. Moore's newest fantasy/horror/comedy series.

NBM is also the exclusive home of *Mutant Aliens*, animator **Bill Plympton's** graphic-novel version of his upcoming animated feature. After an astronaut is left for dead in deep space, he returns years

later with a spaceship full of aliens and a mind bent on revenge!

Dark Horse Comics has collected the Oz mini-series together in a trade paperback that includes new sketches and artwork. Not Oz as in L. Frank Baum, Oz as in the werewolf from *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, here getting his very own comic book series.

"Gorillaz" co-creator **Jamie Hewlett** has re-released his classic first series in a new trade paperback: *Tank Girl Volume 1*. It's 128 full-color pages of beer, strangeness, and talking kangaroos, all from Titan Publishing.

*Herobear & The Kid* creator **Mike Kunkel** has released *Flipped #2*, his second comic strip presented in an animation flip-book manner. This time around we follow the adventure of two barnyard companions named Ham and Eggs.

Sanguine Productions, home of the game *Ironclaw*, has released the first collection of fiction set in the Ironclaw universe, titled *Scars*. This fury adventure was written by **Ted MacKinnon** and features illustrations by **Trent Halverson**. Find out more at [www.sanguineproductions.com](http://www.sanguineproductions.com).

Recently come across: The author **Michael Hoeye** and his series of novel-length adventure books following the mouse named Hermux Tantamoq. Hermux is a simple watchmaker who can't seem to stop having wild adventures fall into his life. The books in the series (so far) are *Time Stops for No Mouse* and *The Sands of Time*. Both are available from Terrie Books.

With the theme of ConFurence 2002 being talking-animal crime and detective stories, what a time to stumble across the works of **Bruce Hale**. Bruce is the creator of Chet Gecko, Private Eye. Who is Chet? He's a lizard, who goes to school in the fourth grade. He solves mysteries. With titles like *The Chameleon Wore Chartreuse* and *The Hamster of the Baskervilles* in the series, it sounds like he's got a lot of mysteries to solve. Mr. Hale, it turns out, is also a performer who does storytelling shows at local schools. You can find out more about Bruce and Chet at [www.brucehale.com/chet.html](http://www.brucehale.com/chet.html).

**David Clement-Davies**, author of *Fire Bringer*, returns with another fury fantasy novel in the *Watership Down* tradition. In *The Sight* (hardcover, from Dutton Books), a wolf pack fights against a vengeful female who possesses "the sight" – the ability to read and control minds. Mr. Clement-Davies has also written the illustrated book version of *Spirit, Stallion of the Cimarron*, the new Dreamworks animated feature.

On the twisted heels of *Insanely Twisted Rabbits*, artist **Michael Gagne** has several black & white illustrated books on the shelves now. *The Bird, the Spider, and the Octopus; The Great Shadow Migration; and The Mystery of He* are all magical fables illustrated in Gagne's trademark dark, strange style. As long as you're looking, check out more of Michel's full-color work in the book *Frenzied Fauna: From A to Z*, wherein he does to many other species what he's done to rabbits before.

The children's fantasy book series *Loch* returns in a trio of hardcover books with a brand new illustrated slipcover. The full-color stories, for those who don't know, follow the adventures of a young plesiosaur and her friends as they live and grow up in Loch Ness. From Penny Farthing Press.

Out now from Idea & Design Works is a new illustrated children's book by **T. Paula Louise** (illustrated by **Ashley Wood**) called *Imposibus Rhinoceros, Giraffe, and Gnu*. (Sure, easy to remember!) Imposibus Rhinoceros and his friends decide that they're too sophisticated for life in a zoo, and it's time to escape. Unfortunately, they soon discover that the world outside is an even bigger zoo!

Those of us who are more skilled at a computer keyboard than with a drawing pencil might want to check out *How to Write for Animation* (Overlook Press) by **Jeffrey Scott**. The Emmy-winning Mr. Scott, who has written scripts for the likes of *Super Friends*, *Muppet Babies*, and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* (among many others) gives detailed, step-by-step instructions on creating an animated TV show, writing for it, and (importantly!) how to market the idea.

In *Flash Frames: A New Pop Culture* (Watson-Guptill Publications), authors **Laurie Dolphin** and **Stuart S. Shapiro** take a look at the growing phenomenon of flash animation shows and sites on the Web. Included are profiles of 40 innovative flash creators, including **Russ Heath** and **Joe Cartoon**.

For FRP gamers who think differently, you might look at *Monsters* from Alderac Entertainment Group. This new book for the d20 game system details how to roll up and play an entire party of orcs, goblins, trolls, and other big beastly-things in a role-playing game.

In *Gouda Gouda*, the new role-playing game from Eurogames, players are mice trying to thwart each other's attempts at getting the most cheese. Yes, we mean it.

*Pryzm* is a new electronic game for the Playstation 2 from TDK Mediactive. In a fantasy realm winged unicorns and noble dwarves fight against an army of evil creatures released by a war between wolf-riding elves (!!) and fairy folk. Find out more about it at [www.pryzmgame.com](http://www.pryzmgame.com).

How this for something new: Anthropomorphic, patriotic figurines. *Freedom, the American Eagle* is a 7-inch tall plastic figure of an anthro eagle, complete with movable wings and a base in the shape of the continental US, from Mezco Toys. Profits from the sale of *Freedom* will be donated to a fund for the relief of victims of the 9/11/01 attacks.

Here's an item for followers of comic veteran **Phil Foglio**: From his popular comic series *Girl Genius*, a new cloisonne' pin of the character Krosop – "The Napoleon of cats" – has been released by Studio Foglio. It's 1½-inch wide and features six color enameling.

#### Obituaries

Simply put: **Chuck Jones**, the last of the great and classic cartoon directors at Warner Brothers, passed away at his home on February 22, 2002. The following is from the official press release at [www.chuckjones.org](http://www.chuckjones.org):

Chuck Jones, legendary animation director and artist, best known for his work on the Warner Bros. classic Looney Tunes cartoon series, died today of congestive heart failure. Marian, his wife of 20 years, was by his side at their home in Corona del Mar.

In a career spanning over 60 years, Jones made more than 300 animated films, winning three Oscars as director and in 1996 an honorary Oscar for Lifetime Achievement. Among the many awards and recognitions, one of those most valued was the honorary life membership from the Directors Guild of America.

During the Golden Age of animation Jones helped bring to life many of Warner Bros. most famous characters—Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Elmer Fudd, and Porky Pig. The list of characters he created himself includes Road Runner, Wile E. Coyote, Marvin the Martian, Pepe le Pew, Michigan J. Frog, and many others. He also produced, directed and wrote the screenplays for Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, a television classic, as well as the feature-length film *The Phantom Tollbooth*. In addition, Jones was a prolific artist whose work has been exhibited at galleries and museums worldwide.

In recent years, Jones' work has been honored at film festivals and museums throughout the world, including a one-man retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. His autobiography, *Chuck Amuck*, appeared in 1989, now in its fifth printing. *Chuck Reducks*, his follow-up to the first book, was published two years later.

Two years ago, Jones established the Chuck Jones Foundation, designed to recognize, support and inspire continued excellence in art and the art of classic character animation. Plans for the Foundation include scholarships, library resources, touring exhibits, a lecture series and access to film, notes and drawings.

[Ed-Otter's Note: *They don't make cartoons like Chuck anymore, and it's doubtful anyone ever will. It is difficult to express how much we will miss him. A celebration of Mr. Jones' life and work, and a fundraiser for the Chuck Jones Foundation, will be held at ConFurence 2002 in Burbank – ROR]*

Tove Jansson was not a familiar name to most Americans, but she was very well known throughout Europe and Asia as the creator of the Moomin Trolls series of children's books. She passed away in June of 2001, at the age of 86. Beginning with *The Little Trolls and the Great Flood* in 1945, and right up to *Moominvalley* in 1970, the hippo-like moomins have captivated kids the world over. So much so that a theme park dedicated to the moomins was constructed in Ms. Jansson's native Finland. In the 1990's, a popular anime series based on Ms. Jansson's books was created in Japan.

How did we miss this one? Animation design legend Maurice Noble died at his home in La Crescenta, California on May 18, 2001. Mr. Noble was one of the most famous and respected animation designers in Hollywood: He created the unique look of cartoons like *Duck Amuck*, *What's Opera Doc?*, *Duck Dodgers in the 24 ½ Century*, *The Lorax*, and Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. He also won an Academy Award, which he shared with Chuck Jones, for the animated short film *The Dot and the Line*.

Eve Titus, creator of the popular characters *Basil of Baker Street* and *Anatole* the mouse, died in England on February 4, 2002. *Anatole* has been made into a TV series (1999), and (most famously) *Basil* was the basis for the popular Walt Disney animated feature *The Great Mouse Detective* (1987).

*From: Taral Wayne <taralwayne@3web.net>*

Coming next summer will be the new novel by science fiction writer Rudy Rucker. Unlike most SF books, this one will be illustrated – by familiar furry Taral Wayne. The book is scheduled as a hardcover for June by Tor Books, a noted name in SF. (The usual practice is to follow this by a cheaper paperback about a year later.) Called *SpaceLand*, in it a business man is drawn into a plot by one higher dimensional power against another when he is given a miraculous device to market that works through the 4<sup>th</sup> dimension. Eighteen drawings illustrate the action and concepts throughout the novel. The drawings are

closely based on the author's own sketches, bringing them the finish and clarity the artist is known for.

Rudy Rucker's novel *White Light* was published in 1980, and was the first of several in that decade. A professor of mathematics, the author's career is reflected in all his work.

Taral Wayne the reader ought to know. (However... he was a founding member of *Rowrbazzle*, a habitual contributor to *Gallery*, six time Hugo nominee as an artist, GoH at one early ConFurence, and artist behind the *Beatrix* series of comics.) He is currently working on a story for *Mayhem Country*, and an illustrated version of *Paul Kidd's Hot Buttered Mice* for Mu Press.

[Taral Wayne also says:] While not exactly fresh news, it's probably not as well known as I'd like that I have a CD-Rom for sale. Called *Off-Colour*, the nearly 400 images cover a range of material – erotic, furry, fantasy, SF, and tech – black and white pencil drawings mainly from the years 1999 to 2000. The disk is professionally replicated, with an attractive silk-screen design, and comes with vinyl cover, colour printed matter and a b/w booklet. About a third of the images on *Off-Colour* are accompanied with audio comments by the artist. *Off-Colour* can be run on any Mac or PC configured computer. Should you need it, a viewer, Adobe Acrobat, is included on the disk. Cost, with shipping and handling, \$22 US. Address – 245 Dunn Ave. Apt. 2111, Toronto Ontario, M6K 1S6, Canada. *Off-Colour* is also available from Digital Impudendum.

**Furry Stuff has ConFurence Stuff!** The original ConFurence General Store (for ConFurences 0 – 10) is now at the Furry Stuff web portal. Three of our popular T-Shirt designs are still available for a limited time: "Furries in Force" (black on honey-color) by **Eric Schwartz** from CF7, "Furries in Love" (black and pink on grey) by **Rachael Cawley** from CF9, and "The Furry World" (black and white on green) by **Ken Sample** from CF10. Plus, we still offer the *ConFurence Seven Highlights Video*, the *ConFurence Eight – Music and Mirth* video, and now the special *ConFurence Five &*

Six combination video too! Not to mention many cool prints and extra Souvenir Books! To find a complete list, visit the Furry Stuff web site ([www.furrystuff.com](http://www.furrystuff.com)), or send them an SASE to: Furry Stuff, P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92842-1958.

What, you're looking for **NEW** ConFurence Stuff? **The ConFurence Group**, home of ConFurence 2002, has its own stash of stuff they want you to know about too! Still available are the full-color ConFurence 11 T-shirt designs by **Shannon Stuart** and CF 11 Guest of Honor **Michel Beiro**, both for \$12.00 each, and the new ConFurence Group™ paw-logo T-shirt for \$12.00 also. (Some larger sizes are \$15.00.) And now, we present a brand-new t-shirt for ConFurence 12, drawn by Guest of Honor **Mike Kazaleh**, for a limited time! Plus, remember to get your ConFurence lapel pins! That's right, the paw-globe logo can be right on your neck for only \$8.00. If you visit their web site at [www.confurence.net](http://www.confurence.net), you can order this cool stuff plus ConFurence 12 memberships, Cabaret tickets, and more, on-line! For more information about new ConFurence merchandise, write them at: The ConFurence Group, P.O. Box 84721, San Diego, CA 92138-4721.

**And Now, just what you've been wanting to hear:** How do I keep up my **Subscription to In-Fur-Nation?** We're glad you asked! After nearly a decade of functioning as a newsletter for ConFurence, and a furry newsletter second, *In-Fur-Nation* is expanding its role in the furry community by presenting you the whole length and breadth of furry: Not just comic books, animated films, picture books, and the rest, but the growing number of furry-themed fan conventions popping up around the continent, and around the world! So now, a subscription to *In-Fur-Nation* will bring you even *more* of what furry fans are looking for around the globe. Find out what to look for, and where to go! Brought right to your doorstep three times a year (spring, summer, and fall). And what's it gonna cost you? A whopping **\$5.00** for a year's subscription. That's right, for a year. Just send a check made out to "Furry Stuff" (and note it's for *In-Fur-Nation*), or heck, just send a \$5.00 bill in a darkened envelope. (Trust us, it's an old

tradition in the 'zine community. It works). To subscribe, to find out more info, or to send us notes for our Furry News, write us at: In-Fur-Nation, P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92842-1958.

**A Note to the staff members of our many Furry Conventions:** Hey! We wanna help you get the word out! Having a cool-looking web site is a neat thing, but remember: There are still a significant number of fans out there (furry and otherwise) who don't use the World Wide Web, or who don't use it to its full potential. For them, there's this cool old thing folks on the Internet call *Snail Mail*. That's where we come in! Send us information, and let us help you get the word out to over 1,000 furry fans, artists, dealers, and publishers in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Japan.... Look below for our reasonable ad rates, and don't forget... send us text blurbs and you get in for free!

**A Request to Our Readers:** Hey, got a favorite comic or book store that carries your favorite furry titles, or that you wish would carry more? Give us their address! We'll send them a copy of In-Fur-Nation each quarter, and keep them abreast of the kind of comics and media that you would like to see on their shelves! Remember, they can't order it if they don't know it's out there! *As an alternate:* Know of any good comic review zines or web sites that might be looking to trade issues?

**Guess what? In-Fur-Nation wants Reporters!** Actually, interviewers... as a new feature, we're going to present profiles of furry creators and furry-oriented companies that are helping to promote products and media of interest to funny animal fans all over. So, like to help out? Know a comic book creator, animator, publisher, or other such person in the field who'd like to discuss what furries mean to them, or to the world? Talk to them, write down what they say... then give us a write-up, about 300-500 words, and we'll include it as a blurb in an upcoming INF, and give you credit for it. [We do maintain the right to edit for clarity and length, mind you.] Send hard copies to the ConFurence address, or, you can e-mail your submission to ed-otter **Rod O'Riley** at [mink@firstlight.net](mailto:mink@firstlight.net).

**Advertising in In-Fur-Nation:** For those who've been asking, ads in In-Fur-Nation come in these sizes: 1/8-page "business card" size for \$5.00 per issue, and 1/4-page size (4 1/2" tall by 3 1/4" wide) for \$10.00 per issue. Full-page inclusions can also be arranged for \$50.00 an issue. Check should be made out to Furry Stuff. Send camera-ready art and text to P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92842-1958.

(Many thanks to the people who helped provide information for this issue, both by mail and via Internet! Also, our appreciation to *Previews* magazine, and a special thanks to the people at the Chuck Jones Foundation and [www.chuckjones.org](http://www.chuckjones.org).)

"I don't eat junk food." [Diego (Dennis Leary), sabertooth, from *Ice Age*]

### Furry Conventions Coming Your Way This Summer!

#### The Gathering of the Gargoyles 2002

The annual Gathering for fans of Disney's popular TV series *Gargoyles* has moved to Williamsburg, Virginia. The show will be held June 28 - 30, 2002, at the Holiday Inn Downtown Busch Gardens. Rooms are \$99.00 per night. Confirmed guests include **Greg Weisman** (Series Creator, Writer / Supervising Producer).

Memberships are currently \$45.00 for adults and \$20.00 for children ages 10 through 14 (accompanied by an adult) – but these rates are only good through May 15, 2002! At-the-door, membership is \$60.00. To find out more, write to them at: The Gathering 2002, 508 West Plantation Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23454. Or, check out their web site at <http://gathering.gargoyles-fans.org>.

#### Westercon 55: Conagerie

This year's Western Regional Science Fiction Convention (aka Westercon) has an jungle animal theme – Hence the nickname, Conagerie! The Guests of Honor include author **Harry Turtledove**,

editor Beth Meacham, and artist Ross Chamberlain.

It all takes place at the Los Angeles Airport Radisson Hotel (formerly known as the LAX Wyndham) on July 4 - 7, 2002. Hotel rates have recently been lowered to \$95.00 per night for single, double, triple, or quad. The address is: Radisson Hotel at Los Angeles Airport, 6225 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles, California 90045. The phone number (for reservations, et al) is (310) 670-9000.

As with all Westercons, the membership rate is a sliding scale based on whether or not you were a pre-supporter of the convention and whether or not you voted for them. More information can be found about membership rates by sending an SASE to: Westercon 55, c/o SCIFI, Inc., P.O. Box 8442, Van Nuys, CA 91409. Of course, you could just check out their web site at [www.westercon.org/55/](http://www.westercon.org/55/) and get all you need to know on line.

### Anime Expo 2002

Oops, it's gonna be a crazy weekend...

Anime Expo, the largest gathering in North America for fans of Japanese animation and comics, returns to Long Beach on July 4 - 7, 2002. Officially hosted by the Long Beach Convention Center, the Expo will also take place at the Long Beach Hyatt Regency and Long Beach Westin Hotels.

As usual, Anime Expo features not only a giant dealer's room of anime-related products, but literally dozens of anime industry veterans as guest speakers – Not to mention tons of premier screenings. It's all yours for \$50.00 (by mail until May 15 or at the door). Lower rates are available for single-day passes.

For more information, write The Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation, 7336 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 640, Hollywood, CA 90046. Or, keep in touch with their rapidly expanding guest and programming roster by visiting [www.anime-expo.org](http://www.anime-expo.org). While you're there, look for information about a brand new event:

Anime Expo New York, taking place August 31 – September 2, 2002 at Times Square in New York City.

### Anthrocon 2002

The largest furry con east of the Rockies will be held July 12 – 14, once again at the famous Adams Mark Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This year's theme is "Inventions", and a special invention fair will be part of the programming. This year's Guests of Honor include author **Lisanne Norman** (the *Sholan Alliance* series) and renowned fantasy illustrator **Heather Bruton**.

Registration is \$40 until June 15th, 2002, and \$45 thereafter and at the door.

**Hotel Information:** Adams Mark Hotel, City & Monument Ave. Phone (215) 581-5000 (Mon-Fri, 8am-8pm Eastern Time). Room rates are \$99 per night for single/double/triple/quad.

**For More Information:** Anthrocon, Inc., P.O. Box 270, Devault, PA 19432. Their e-mail is [anthrocon@anthrocon.org](mailto:anthrocon@anthrocon.org), and their Web site is <http://www.anthrocon.org>.

### G-FEST 2002

Also on July 12 – 14, in another part of the country, the first and largest convention for fans of kaiju (Godzilla and other giant monsters of Japan) returns to middle America for the year 2002. G-Fest takes place at the Radisson Hotel Arlington Heights near Chicago, Illinois. Rooms are \$75.00 a night for single or double. Among the special guests will be special effects creator **Koichi Kawakita**, Godzilla suit actor **Hurricane Ryu**, American kaiju actor **Robert Scott Field**, and G-Fan editor **J.D. Rees**. Check out <http://www.g-fan.com/gfest02> for more details, or write to them care of DAIKAIJU ENTERPRISES LTD., Box 3468, Steinbach, Manitoba, Canada R0A 2A0

### CritterConDiego

CritterConDiego will be a two-night mini-Con adjacent to San Diego's ComiCon International on August 03 and 04, 2002. Dealers, artists, sketches, videos, and more! For all the de-tails, keep your eyes on [www.confurence.net](http://www.confurence.net) - more info there as it becomes available.

### Eurofurence 7

The largest gathering of furries in Europe will be held August 15 - 18, 2002, at the youth hostel "Oberbernhards" near Fulda, Germany. Attending membership is currently 95 EU through the end of May, when it becomes 110 EU. For more information, prices, and directions, check out their web site at <http://www.eurofurence.org/EFB>.

### Camp Feral! 2002

August 21 - 25, 2002, at the Kinark Outdoor Centre, Ontario, Canada. Thus far, the world's only Furry Summer Camp. Special Guests include the artist **Jessica "Ginger" Willard** and furry raconteur **Uncle Kage**.

Those with net access can visit the *new* Feral! web site ([www.campferal.org](http://www.campferal.org)) for the latest details. You can also send email to [info@campferal.org](mailto:info@campferal.org), or write to: Feral!, Box 47008, Sheridan Mall P.O., Mississauga ON, L5K 1T9, Canada.

Watch this space in our summer issue for more info on Mephit Furmeet (Aug 30 - Sep 2, in Memphis, Tennessee), ZonieCon (Oct, in Tucson, Arizona), Conifur Northwest (Oct 4 - 6, in Fife, Washington), and Midwest FurFest (Nov 22 - 24, near Chicago, Illinois).

But don't forget: First Off, it's Confurence 2002! And we hope to see you therel

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Artist/Animator, creator of the popular "Jack Salem" character

#### Edward Luena

Artist / Writer "Crow of the Bear Clan"

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